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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
PRICES BRANCH

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## PRICE MOVEMENTS, DECEMBER, 1947 (PRELIMINARY)

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index rose 2.4 points to 146.0 (1935-1939=100) between November 1 and December 1, 1947. The index for food prices recorded a further sharp increase from 173.6 to 178.7 as dairy products, vegetables and fruits moved higher. There was a moderate decrease in egg prices while meats showed little change. Removal of the sales tax from electricity and gas rates reduced the fuel and light index from 122.6 to 120.3; this was the only budget group to move lower. Increases in clothing were general, and the index for this group continued upward from 157.0 to 159.3. Homefurnishings and services advanced from 151.4 to 154.9 on higher prices for furniture, textile furnishings, electrical equipment and hardware. The miscellaneous items index mounted from 118.2 to 119.8, while rents remained at 119.9.

When adjusted to the base August 1939=100, the Dominion cost-of-living index moved up from 142.5 cn November 1 to 144.8 on December 1.

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-39-100) Home-Miscell-Combined Fuel Clothfurnishings and aneous Index Food Rent and ing Light Services 154.9 119.8 119.9 120.3 159.3 December 1, 1947... 146.0 178.7 November 1, 1947... 143.6 173.6 122.6 157.0 151.4 118.2 119.9 109.2 December 2, 1946... 131.2 129.4 114.1 127.1 146.4 113.4

SECURITIES: Common stock prices did not quite maintain opening levels for December, a minor rally in the final week of the month being insufficient to counteract earlier losses. Between the weeks of November 27 and December 26 the composite index for 100 common stocks receded 0.5 points to 106.8. Among sub-group changes industrials and utilities moved fractionally lower while banks declined more than 3 index points. During the same period the composite index for 27 mining stocks dropped 2.8 points to 86.5. Weakness in gold shares was pronounced while a comparable index of base metal issues registered a moderate advance in December.

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-39=100 Monthly Averages -Week ended -December November December 1947 1947 1946 26th Dec.4th 11th 18th INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX 106.1 106.4 105.5 106.8 106.2 107.3 106.4 (100 Common Stocks) ..... 74 Industrials ..... 99.9 100.4 99.7 101.1 100.3 101.0 99.3 112.4 112.1 111.2 112.6 18 Utilities ..... 112.1 114.7 118.3 133.5 8 Banks ..... 135.6 134.1 132.2 132.5 133.6 135.0 MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX 89.9 83.7 86.5 86.6 (27 Stocks) ..... 87.1 88.4 84.5 73.2 77.3 74.8 79.5 70.9 23 Golds ..... 76.4 72.3 4 Base Metals ..... 107.2 108.5 108.4 107.6 106.3 108.6 111.8 DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX ... 84.7 84.7 84.7 84.7 84.7

WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY): The Bureau's index of Industrial Material Prices, on the base 1926=100, rose from 143.7 for the week of November 28 to 145.0 for the week of December 26, influenced mainly by a sharp increase in crude oil and firmer prices for livestock. The index for Canadian Farm Products moved from 127.4 to 134.2 in the same period, with higher prices reported for grain, tobacco, livestock, milk, eggs and wool.

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes, 1925=100							
	Week ended -				Monthly Averages -		
	Dec.5th	12th	19th	26th	December 1947	November 1947	
Industrial Materials Canadian Farm Products			144.6	145.0 134.2	143.9 131.1	143.3	106.4



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